Bengal Potteries

927. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to further extend the take over period of Bengal Potteries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to nationalise Bengal Potteries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) It has not been possible for the Government to take a decision with regard to the future disposition of the undertaking of M/s. Bengal Potteries Ltd., as certain important issues like excess labour force, inadequate working capital, uninterrupted power supply etc. are involved. Meanwhile the period of take over of management of M/s. Bengal Potteries Limited has been extended upto 30.6.1987, or till a decision with regard to the future disposition of the undertaking as taken, whichever is earlier.

Complaints in elections

928. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission has got complaints about the malpractices in bye-election in Uttar Pradesh and the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what is the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. The details of the complaints are still under compilation by the Election Commission in consultation with the Chief Electoral officers of the States concerned.

(b) This will arise only after the complaints have been compiled and analysed.

LPG/Kerosene dealerships for reserved categories in Kerala

929. SHRI T. K. C. VADUTHALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of distributorships/dealerships for LPG, kerosene etc. of Indian Oil Corporation and of the erstwhile private oil companies during the period from 1st January, 1984 to 31st March, 1987 under the reserved category and General category in Kerala State;

(b) whether it is a fact that the applications called for as early as in 1986 are still pending for decision and if so, how many such cases are pending for decision as on the 31st March, 1987;

(c) what are the criteria followed for the election of area for opening the outlet and whether the feasibility of the new dealership is ascertained before locating the area; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the reserved category is located invariably outside the city and major towns and if not, how many outlets are sanctioned under the reserved category in the cities and major municipal limits in Kerala during the period from the 1st January, 1984 to the 31st March, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The Oil Industry have awarded the following distributorships/realerships in the State of Kerala during the period from 1.1.84 to 31-3-87:—